

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02

AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06

PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 /133 W

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R 161754Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4795

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

USDEL MTN GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 14296

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN

SUBJECT: 7TH SPECIAL SESSION UNGA: PRELIMINARY UK
REACTIONS

REF: LONDON 13950

1. SUMMARY: HMG WORKING-LEVEL REACTIONS TO SECRETARY'S
SEPTEMBER 1 SPEECH HAVE BEEN QUITE POSITIVE IN GENERAL
BUT WITH RESERVATIONS ON SOME DETAILS. HANDLING OF COM-
MODITIES AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ARE AMONG POINTS
WHICH FIND READY APPROVAL HERE, WHILE DOUBTS ARE EXPRES-
SED ABOUT DEVELOPMENT SECURITY FACILITY, AND ACCESS TO
CAPITAL MARKETS PORTIONS. FCO APPEARED GENERALLY SATIS-
FIED WITH PROGRESS IN 7TH SPECIAL SESSION AS OF SEPTEMBER
15, BUT FINAL EVALUATIONS MUST AWAIT RETURN OF SENIOR
OFFICIALS FROM NEW YORK. END SUMMARY

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2. DEPARTMENT OFFICER (ACHILLES, EUR/NE) AND EMBOFF WERE GIVEN BRIEFING AFTERNOON SEPTEMBER 15 BY JOHN SYMONS, FCO, UN DEPARTMENT, ON PRELIMINARY REACTIONS TO SECRETARY'S 7TH SPECIAL SESSION SPEECH AND COURSE OF MEETING TO THAT DATE FROM HMG VIEWPOINT. DISCUSSION WAS HAMPERED BY FACT OUTCOME OF SPECIAL SESSION WAS STILL UNKNOWN. MOREOVER, SINCE THE SENIOR OFFICIALS INVOLVED ARE STILL IN NEW YORK, LONDON REACTIONS MUST BE CONSIDERED PRELIMINARY. NEVERTHELESS, SYMONS HAS BEEN STRATEGICALLY LOCATED FOR A GOVERNMENT-WIDE PERSPECTIVE, COORDINATING AND FEEDING POSITIONS TO THE UK DEL FROM A NUMBER OF AGENCIES.

3. CONCERNING REACTION TO THE SECRETARY'S SEPTEMBER 1 SPEECH, SYMONS REPORTED THAT RESPONSE IN GENERAL WAS QUITE FAVORABLE--TO THE SPEECH AND PARTICULARLY TO THE EFFORTS ON THE PART OF THE US DEL TO RELATE SECRETARY KISSINGER'S PROPOSALS TO WHAT HAD GONE BEFORE, I.E., TO G-77 PROPOSALS, EC VIEWS. NEVERTHELESS, HE SAID THERE IS A FEELING THAT SPEECH IMPLIES EXCESSIVE PROLIFERATION OF NEW AGENCIES AND HE NOTED A NUMBER OF POSSIBLE PROBLEM AREAS FOR THE UK.

4. SPECIFIC STICKING POINTS INCLUDE:

(A) DEVELOPMENT SECURITY FACILITY--LODGING IN IMF QUESTIONED AS WELL AS POTENTIAL SIZE (TOO GENEROUS) OF ANNUAL DISBURSEMENTS.

(B) ACCESS TO CAPITAL MARKETS--THERE ARE A NUMBER OF THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL PROBLEMS WITH THIS FOR THE UK, WHICH TENDS TO PUT EMPHASIS UPON TRADITIONAL, CONCESSION AID IN CONTRAST TO INCREASED RESOURCE TRANSFER VIA PRIVATE FLOWS. ACCESS PROPOSALS ARE NOT SEEN AS VIABLE ALTERNATIVES, PARTICULARLY FOR POOREST NATIONS WITHOUT NOTABLE RESOURCES. IN THIS REGARD, QUADRUPLING OF IFC CAPITAL NOT VIEWED FAVORABLY. ALSO, UK WOULD HAVE TO RESERVE ON MANY PROPOSALS BECAUSE OF EXCHANGE CONTROL REGULATIONS.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 LONDON 14296

5. SPECIFIC PROPOSALS WELL RECEIVED HERE INCLUDE:

(A) IDA REPLENISHMENT--PROPOSAL FOR INCREASING IDA VERY WELL RECEIVED, BUT MAKING CONTRIBUTION CONTINGENT UPON OIL COUNTRIES CONTRIBUTION QUESTIONED--"WHY MAKE OPEC CONFORM TO OUR PARTICULAR AID FORMS?"

(B) AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT--THIS IS VIEWED AS A PARTICULAR STRONG POINT IN SPEECH.

(C) COMMODITY POLICY--VERY WELL RECEIVED, PARTICULARLY U.S. ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTENT TO SIGN 5TH TIN AGREEMENT.

6. SYMONS POINTED OUT 7TH SPECIAL SESSION CONTRASTED WITH 6TH IN THAT G-77 NATIONS SEEM TO HAVE BEEN LARGELY DISABUSED OF NOTION THAT ALL COMMODITIES CAN BE WORKED AS OPEC WORKED OIL. G-77 MUCH MORE WILLING SEEK CONFIDENTIAL

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SENSUS THAN A YEAR AGO. IN THIS SITUATION, G-77, EC, US HAVE BEEN ABLE WORK TOGETHER SURPRISINGLY WELL.

7. FROM OTHER CONVERSATIONS WITH HMG AND COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS WE GET IMPRESSION FEELING WIDE-SPREAD THAT, WHILE THINGS HAVE WORKED OUT REASONABLY WELL IN NEW YORK, COMMONWEALTH "INITIATIVE" AS DEVELOPED IN OTTAWA AND GEORGETOWN IS BETTER FORGOTTEN. COMMONWEALTH GROUP UNDOUBTEDLY MADE AN INPUT BUT LOST CHANCE TO DO MORE WHEN OTTAWA EXPERTS FELL IN TRAP OF REPEATING

OLD G-77 SLOGANS.

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